to bridge the gap between irrigation capacity and its utilisation;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what would be the estimated irrigation capacity and its utilisation at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Steps taken include *On-farm development works under* the Command Area Development Programme, *improved water management* practices modernisation and stablisation of existing projects and water budgeting.

(d) At the end of the Seventh Plan period, irrigation potential is expected to be about 80 million hectares and utilisation about 71 6 million hectares.

**Clearance of Irrigation projects of Orissa**

*314. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the major irrigation projects in Orissa which the Central Government have cleared for implementation and the projects which are still in the process of clearance; and

(b) the total investment to be made on all these projects?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) Out of six major irrigation projects under implementation in Orissa under the State Plan, five projects have been cleared. Latest estimated cost of these six projects is Rs. 1798 crores and the likely expenditure on these projects upto the end of Seventh Plan is anticipated to be about Rs. 638 crores.

**Recording of ground water table**

*315. SHRI SUSHIL BARONGPA: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ground water table is gradually going down in some parts of Madhya Pradesh and also in various parts of the country because of less rainfall and over-exploitation of ground water potential;

(b) whether the Central Government have any proposal to deploy experts so as to identify the schemes through which the ground water table can quickly be recharged and whether the Central Government are also considering to finance such ground water recharging investigation schemes; and

(c) if so, how much assistance is being given to Madhya Pradesh for the year 1989-90 for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Ground Water Board have undertaken studies on artificial recharge of ground water.

(c) An allocation of Rs. 350 lakhs for Centrally Sponsored Schemes of soil conservation in the catchment area of river valley projects in Madhya Pradesh and Rs. 75 lakhs for integrated water-shed management in the Sone river catchment has been proposed for 1989-90.

**Pay structure of the Officers of the Indian Forest Service**

*316. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Forest Service Association has expressed resentment for not making their pay structure a rational one and

if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(b) what are their other grievances and what steps have been taken for the redressal of their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) The Indian Forest Service Association expressed resentment over some of the decisions taken by the Government regarding pay scales, after the receipt of the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission. After careful consideration of the representations received in this behalf, the anomaly at the level of the Selection Grade has been corrected by prescribing a higher minimum pay. The other demands were not found to be justified.

(b) The other grievances brought out in representations and the action taken by the Government are shown below :

| Brief gist of grievances | Action taken |
|---|---|
| i. Forest officers should be Mission Director/ Coordinator in the Technology Mission on "Greening of India". | i. No decision has yet been taken on the setting up of a technology mission for the National Wastelands Development Board. If and when it is set up also it would not be appropriate to limit the field of selection to forest officers only for filling up such posts. |
| ii. (a) Filling up of the post of Inspector General of Forests. | ii. (a) The post has since been filled up. |
| (b) IGF should be declared ex-officio Secretary to the Government of India. | (b) It is not considered necessary to do so. |
| iii. IFS officers, like officers of other services, should be posted in the Secretariat posts, and should have secretari at status. | iii. Eligible IFS officers are considered, along with others for Secretariat posts at different levels and some IFS officers are already holding secretariat posts. However, as per normal practice applicable to other services also, all IFS officers on Central deputation cannot be given Secertariat status and designation. |
| iv. (a) The conversion of the posts of Deputy Inspector General of Forests and Additional Inspector General of Forests as Director, and Joint Secretary, respectively, should be retraced. | iv. (a) These changes have been made in & the interest of efficient dis- (b) posal of work in the Ministry and it is not considered necessary to change this arrangement at this stage |
| (b) The posts of Subject Matter Specialists should be filled up from amongst Technical Officers, and not from IAS officers. | |
| v. Large scale recruitment in IFS will lead to problems of promotion. Cadre management should also be toned up. | v. The annual intake through the IFS Examination has already been reduced in the current year as well as for the coming year on the basis of cadre reviews which are carried out periodically. |